How to kill Adolf Hitler

Hans Oster

Ludwig Beck

Erwin von Witzleben

Carl Friedrich Goerdeler

Henning von Tresckow

Friedrich Olbricht

Erich Fellgiebel

Participants in the plot

Claus von Stauffenberg

Werner von Haeften

EXTRA
THE STARS AND STRIPES
EXTRA
HITLER DEAD
Fuehrer Fell at CP, German Radio Says; Doenitz at Helm, Vows War Will Continue
Churchill Hints Peace Is at Hand

Roughly 200 German resisters participated in "Operation Valkyrie," the failed July 20, 1944, plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler and overthrow the Nazi regime.

Text Wikipedia

Land	Zahl
A. Altreich	131.800
Ostmark	43.700
Ostgebiete	420.000
Generalgouvernement	2.284.000
Bialystok	400.000
Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren	74.200
Estland - judenfrei -	
Lettland	3.500
Litauen	34.000
Belgien	43.000
Dänemark	5.600
Frankreich / Besetztes Gebiet	165.000
Unbesetztes Gebiet	700.000
Griechenland	69.600
Niederlande	160.800
Norwegen	1.300
B. Bulgarien	48.000
England	330.000
Finnland	2.300
Irland	4.000
Italien einschl. Sardinien	58.000
Albanien	200
Kroatien	40.000
Portugal	3.000
Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien	342.000
Schweden	8.000
Schweiz	18.000
Serbien	10.000
Slowakei	88.000
Spanien	6.000
Türkei (europ. Teil)	55.500
Ungarn	742.800
UdSSR	5.000.000
Ukraine 2.994.684	
Weißrußland aus-schl. Bialystok 446.484	
Zusammen: über	11.000.000

11 million to kill Nazi listing the total people in Europé (Jews)

PARIS EDITION

EXTRA **THE STARS AND STRIPES** EXTRA

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

Vol. 1—No. 279 11Fr. 11Fr. Wednesday, May 2, 1945

HITLER DEAD

Fuehrer Fell at CP, German Radio Says; Doenitz at Helm, Vows War Will Continue

German radio announced last night that Adolf Hitler had died ... Karl Doenitz, former commander-in-chief of the German Navy, has succeeded him as ruler of the Reich, the radio announcer went said.

Doenitz made a radio speech immediately after the announcement, Berlin said, and declared that Germany would continue its war war. His statement upheld peace rumors which had been prevalent for more than a week in all world capitals.

The announcement did not give any details of how the Reich Fuehrer died. The news was broadcast after solemn Wagnerian music, including the "Twilight of the Gods," was played.

"Attention, attention," a voice said. "In a few minutes you will hear a solemn and important message to the German people. We are now going

to play a movement of Bruckner's Seventh Symphony." Finally, the report of Hitler's death was given.

Hitler's death came three days after his former dictator, Benito Mussolini of Italy, was killed by Italian partisans near the village of Dongo on Lake Como.

Doenitz, in his speech, said that Hitler "died a hero at his command post," while Goebbels radio broadcast also said he died in the Reich Chancellery in Berlin yesterday afternoon. Had been ... fighting in Ber-

(Continued on Page 4)

Churchill Hints Peace Is at Hand

MARGOT
FRANK
1926–1945
ANNE
FRANK
1929–1945

Zyklon B is a toxic gas from hydrogen cyanide, which is used in gas chambers at Nazi concentration camps from 1941 to systematically murder

They tried but failed to murder Hilter

How to kill Adolf Hitler

EXTRA THE STARS AND STRIPES EXTRA

HITLER DEAD

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Roughly 200 German resisters participated in "Operation Valkyrie," the failed July 20, 1944, plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler and overthrow the Nazi regime.

Text Wikipedia

1932

Ludwig Assner, a German politician and member of the Bavarian State Parliament, sends a poisoned letter to Hitler from France. An acquaintance of Assner warns Hitler and the letter is intercepted. Place Berlin

1937

An unidentified man in SS uniform reportedly tries to kill Hitler during a rally at the Berlin Sport Palast.

1932

Hitler and several members of his staff fall ill after dining at the revered Kaiserhof hotel in Berlin. Poisoning is suspected, but no arrests are made. Hitler himself seems least affected by the alleged poisoning, possibly due to his vegetarian diet.

Hotel Kaiserhof (Berlin)

Hotel Kaiserhof was a luxury hotel in Wilhelmplatz, Berlin, Germany. It opened in October 1875. It was located next to the Reich Chancellery in what was at the time the city's "government quarter".

1932

Ludwig Assner, a German politician and member of the Bavarian State Parliament, sends a poisoned letter to Hitler from France. An acquaintance of Assner warns Hitler and the letter is intercepted. Place Berlin

1934

Freikorps member **Beppo Römer** vows to assassinate Hitler as revenge for the Night of the Long Knives but is turned over to the Gestapo before any concrete plan can be made.

Josef "Beppo" Römer (17 November 1892 – 25 September 1944) was a member of the Freikorps Oberland, one of the paramilitary organizations that sprang up around Germany as soldiers returned in defeat from World War I. He was later an organizer for the Communist Party of Germany (KPD). He worked against the Third Reich, plotted an assassination of Hitler in 1934 and was executed by the Nazi regime.

Panzerwagen in den Straßen der Reichshauptstadt.

1934

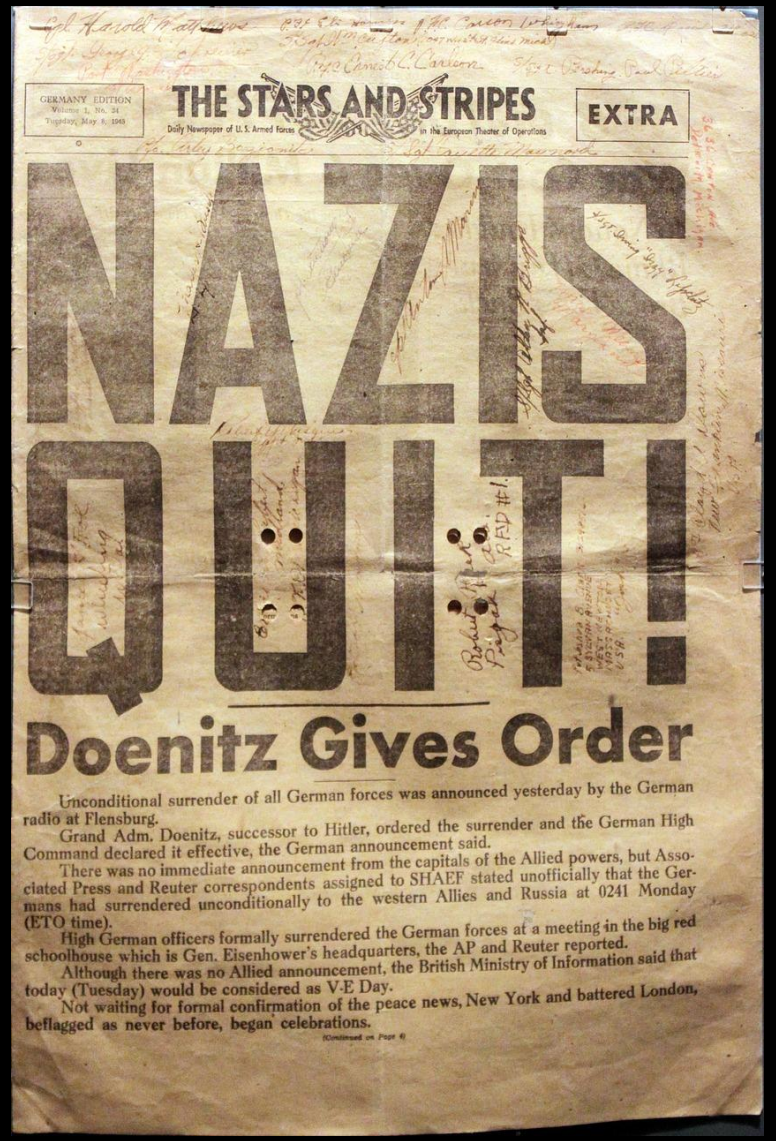
Dr Helmut Mylius, head of the right wing Radical Middle Class Party (Radikale Mittelstandspartei), has 160 men infiltrate the SS and begin gathering information on Hitler's movement. The conspiracy is uncovered by the Gestapo and the conspirators are arrested. Myluis escapes arrest through the aid of influential friends, including Field Marshall Erich von Manstein.

Helmut Mylius

Dr. Helmut Mylius was a German industrialist, leader of the Party of the Radical Middle Class (Radikale Mittelstandspartei), and since 1930 the editor of the Frankfurt-based right-wing political and economics weekly publication, Die Parole der radicalen Staats-und Wirtschaftreform. He was accused of conspiracy to assassinate Adolf Hitler during 1935. He managed to avoid getting arrested due to the influence of his friend, General Erich von Manstein and made his way to the Army as a Quartermaster.

1935
Several German officers

in the Foreign office pen a letter writing that "The oath of alligence against Hitler has lost its meaning since he was ready to sacrifice Germany" and that "now was the time to act" in an attempt to instigate an army coup against the Fuhrer.



GERMANY EDITION
Volume 1, No. 34
Tuesday, May 8, 1945

THE STARS AND STRIPES
Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

EXTRA

NAZIS QUIT!

Doenitz Gives Order

Unconditional surrender of all German forces was announced yesterday by the German radio at Flensburg.

Grand Adm. Doenitz, successor to Hitler, ordered the surrender and the German High Command declared it effective, the German announcement said.

There was no immediate announcement from the capitals of the Allied powers, but Associated Press and Reuter correspondents assigned to SHAEF stated unofficially that the Germans had surrendered unconditionally to the western Allies and Russia at 0241 Monday (ETO time).

High German officers formally surrendered the German forces at a meeting in the big red schoolhouse which is Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters, the AP and Reuter reported.

Although there was no Allied announcement, the British Ministry of Information said that today (Tuesday) would be considered as V-E Day.

Not waiting for formal confirmation of the peace news, New York and battered London, beflagged as never before, began celebrations.

(Continued on Page 4)

1935

Dr Paul Joseph Stuermer leads a resistance group composed of several officers, university professors, businessmen and government workers. The group assists several assassination attempts including Beppo Römer's attempt.

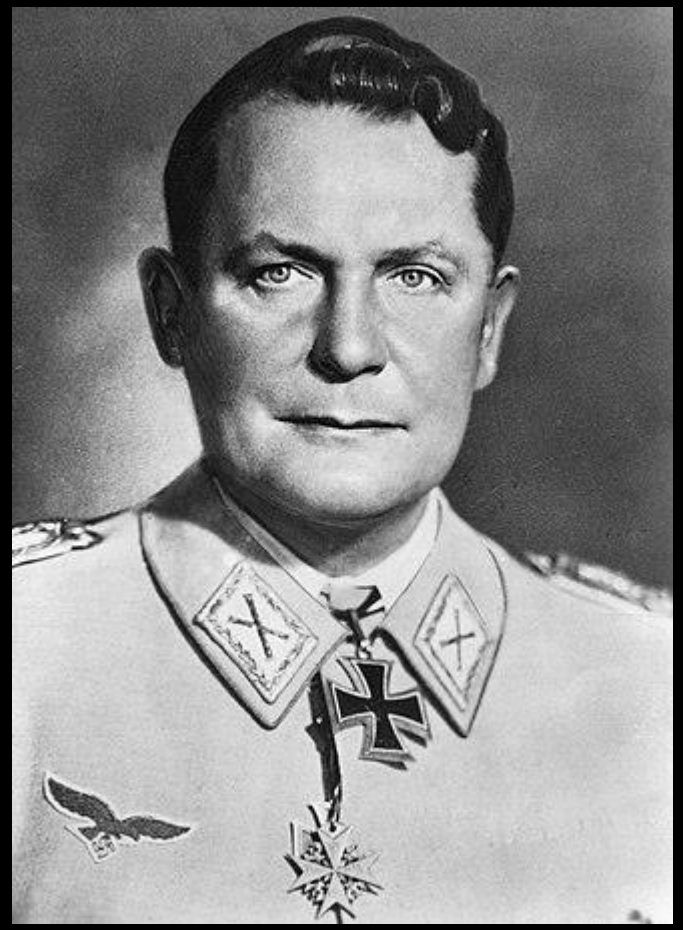
1936 in Nuremberg

Helmut Hirsch, a German Jew and a member of the Strasserist Black Front, is tasked with planting two suitcases filled with explosives at the Nazi party headquarters in Nuremberg. The plot is revealed to the Gestapo by a double agent and Hirsch is executed by decapitation.

Helmut Hirsch (January 27, 1916 in Stuttgart – June 4, 1937 in Berlin) was a German Jew who was executed for his part in a bombing plot intended to destabilize the German Reich. Although a full and accurate account of the plot is unknown, his targets were understood to be the Nazi party headquarters in Nuremberg, (Germany), and/or the plant where the antisemitic weekly propaganda newspaper Der Stürmer was printed.

1937

On November 26 mental patient **Josef Thomas** is arrested by the Gestapo in Berlin after he confesses that he traveled from Elberfeld for the explicit purpose of shooting Hitler and air force commander Hermann Göring.



1937

An unidentified man in SS uniform reportedly tries to kill Hitler during a rally at the Berlin Sport Palast.

1938

A plan is formed by Generalmajor **Hans Oster** and other high-ranking conservatives in the Wehrmacht to overthrow Hitler in the case he declares war on Czechoslovakia. The plan involved the storming of the Reich Chancellery by forces loyal to the plot in order to take control of the government, who would either arrest or assassinate Hitler, and restore the exiled Wilhelm II as Emperor. The plan is abandoned after British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain concedes the Sudetenland to Hitler in the Munich Agreement, neutralizing the immediate risk of war. Many of the conspirators go on to take part in the 1944 20 July Plot

1938

Swiss theology student Maurice Bavaud poses as a reporter and plans to shoot Hitler from the reviewing stand as he passes through the parade. His view of Hitler is blocked by the unwitting crowd and he is forced to abandon the plan. He then attempts to follow Hitler but fails. On his way back to Paris he is discovered by a train conductor and is turned over to the Gestapo. Maurice is executed by guillotine in the Berlin-Plötzensee prison on the morning of May 14, 1941.

On October 9, 1938, Bavaud travelled from Brittany to Baden-Baden, then on to Basel, where he bought a Schmeisser 6.35 mm (.25 ACP) semi-automatic pistol. In Berlin, a policeman, Karl Deckert, overheard Bavaud saying that he would like to meet Hitler personally.

1939

General Michał Karaszewicz-Tokarzewski and other members of the Polish Army attempt to detonate hidden explosives during Hitler's victory parade in Warsaw. 500 Kg of TNT are concealed in a ditch, ready to be detonated by Polish Sappers. However, at the last moment, the parade is diverted and the saboteurs miss their target.

1939

German Carpenter **Georg Elser** places a time-bomb at the Bürgerbräukeller in Munich, where Hitler is due to give his annual speech in commemoration of the Beer Hall Putsch. Hitler leaves earlier than expected and the bomb detonates, killing eight and injuring sixty two others. Following the attempt, Elser is held as a prisoner for over five years until he is executed at the Dachau concentration camp less than a month before the surrender of Nazi Germany.

1939

German diplomat and resistance fighter **Erich Kordt** hatches an assassination plot along with officer Hasso von Etzdorf to plant explosives, but the plan is abandoned after the security restrictions following Georg Elser's attempt to kill Hitler make the acquirement and concealment of the necessary explosives too dangerous.

Both Erich Kordt and his brother, Theodor, played a part in the Oster Conspiracy of 1938, which was a proposed plan to assassinate Adolf Hitler if Germany went to war with Czechoslovakia over the Sudetenland.
Theodor Kordt, who acted as Chargé d'Affaires at the London embassy, was considered a vital contact with the British on whom the success of the plot depended; the conspirators needed strong British opposition to Hitler's seizure of the Sudetenland. Erich used his brother as an envoy to urge the British government to stand up to Hitler over the Czechoslovakia crisis, in the hope that Army officers would stage a coup against Hitler.
However, in the event, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, apprehensive of the possibility of war, negotiated interminably with Hitler and eventually conceded to him. This destroyed any chance of the plot succeeding since Hitler was then seen in Germany as the "greatest statesman of all times at the moment of his greatest triumph".

Several 1941-43

Beppo Römer plots once again to assassinate Hitler along with several co-conspirators of the resistance group Solf Circle. He obtains funds from co-conspirator Nikolaus von Halem and keeps tabs on the Fuhrer's movements through a contact at the Berlin City Commandment. However, before an opportunity can present itself, the plot is unraveled by the Gestapo. Römer is sentenced to death on 16 June 1944 and executed on 25 September of that year at Brandenburg-Görden Prison in Brandenburg an der Have

1943

Following the war, General der Gebirgstruppe Hubert Lanz proclaims of a plan involving himself and Generals Hans Speidel, Hyacinth Graf Strachwitz & Paul Loehning to assassinate Hitler during his visit to the Army Detachment Kempf in Ukraine. According to the plan, Generalleutnant Hyacinth Graf Strachwitz was to surround Hitler and his escorts with his tanks. Lanz stated that he would have then arrested Hitler, and in the event of resistance, Strachwitz's tanks would have shot and killed the entire delegation. Hitler canceled the visit and the plan was dropped. Author Röll casts doubt on this account citing that Strachwitz's cousin, Rudolf Christoph Freiherr von Gersdorff, who attempted to assassinate Hitler in 1943, had recounted that Strachwitz had expressed the belief to him several times that killing Hitler would have constituted murder. Röll concludes that Strachwitz was too much a Prussian officer to consider assassinating Hitler.

March 1943

On the return flight from a front visit Hitler visits the headquarters of the Army Group Center in Smolensk. During the visit there were several attempts to take his life:

Under the direction of Major Georg von Boeselager, several officers were to intercept and assassinate Hitler in a grove on his way from the airport to the headquarters. Hitler is guarded by an armed SS escort; the plan is then dropped.

During lunchtime, Tresckow, Boeselager, and others plan to get up at a sign and fire pistols at Hitler. The commander-in-chief of the Army Group, Field Marshal Günther von Kluge, knows about the plan but decides not to intervene. However, the plan is abandoned when it becomes clear that Himmler would not be present. Kluge forbids the attack, citing his fear of a possible civil war erupting between the SS and the army.

In a last-ditch attempt, Tresckow gives an accompanying officer a time bomb camouflaged as a packaged liqueur, which is supposed to explode on the return flight over Poland. The package containing the explosive is placed in the hold of the aircraft, where it ices up and causes the ignition mechanism to fail. Realizing the failure, Fabian von Schlabrendorff flies immediately to Germany and recovers the suitcase before it is intercepted.

March 21 1943

After becoming close friends with leading Army Group Center conspirator Colonel (later Major-General) Henning von Tresckow, Generalmajor Gersdorff agrees to join the conspiracy to kill Adolf Hitler in order to save Germany. After Tresckow's elaborate plan to assassinate Hitler on 13 March 1943 fails, Gersdorff declares himself ready to give his life for Germany's sake in an assassination attempt that would entail his own death.

On 21 March 1943, Hitler visits the Zeughaus Berlin, the old armory on Unter den Linden, to inspect captured Soviet weapons. A group of top Nazi and leading military officials — among them Hermann Göring, Heinrich Himmler, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, and Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz — are present as well. As an expert, Gersdorff is to guide Hitler on a tour of the exhibition. Moments after Hitler enters the museum, Gersdorff sets off two ten-minute delayed fuses on explosive devices hidden in his coat pockets. His plan is to throw himself around Hitler in a death embrace that will blow them both up. A detailed plan for a coup d'état had been worked out and was ready to go; but, contrary to expectations, Hitler races through the museum in less than ten minutes. After Hitler has left the building, Gersdorff is able to defuse the devices in a public bathroom “at the last second.” After the attempt, he is immediately transferred back to the Eastern Front where he manages to evade suspicion.

November 16 1943

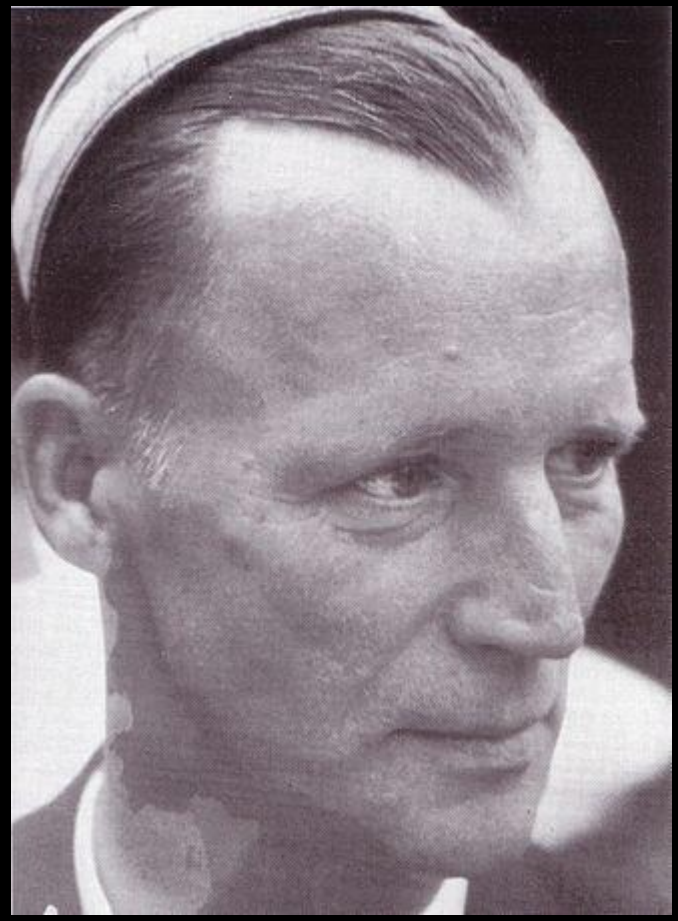
Encouraged by Claus Stauffenberg, **Major Axel von dem Bussche** agrees to carry out a suicide bombing in order to kill Hitler. Bussche, who is over two meters tall, blonde and blue-eyed, exemplifies the Nazi "Nordic ideal" and was thus chosen to personally model the Army's new winter uniform in front of the Fuhrer. In his pocket, Bussche equipps a land mine, which he plans to detonate while embracing the Fuhrer. However, the viewing is canceled after the railway truck containing the new uniforms is destroyed in an allied air raid on Berlin.

January 1944

A similar scheme to Axel von dem Bussche is attempted by German Resistance fighter Ewald von Kleist; however, the uniform inspection is once again postponed, and eventually canceled by Hitler.

On 9 March 1944,

Covert German resistance member **Busch** and his aides are summoned to brief Hitler at the Berghof in Bavaria on 11 March. Following a debate with Tresckow, Breitenbuch agrees to attempt to assassinate the Führer by shooting him in the head using a 7.65mm Browning pistol concealed in his trouser pocket, having declined a suicide attempt using a bomb. A Condor aircraft is sent to collect Busch and Breitenbuch and he is allowed into the Berghof, but is not able to carry out the plan because SS guards have been ordered - earlier that day - not to permit aides into the conference room with Hitler.



20 July plot 1944

On 20 July 1944,
Claus von Stauffenberg and other conspirators attempted to assassinate Adolf Hitler, Führer of Nazi Germany, inside his **Wolf's Lair** field headquarters **near Rastenburg, East Prussia**. The name **Operation Valkyrie**—originally referring to part of the conspiracy—has become associated with the entire event.

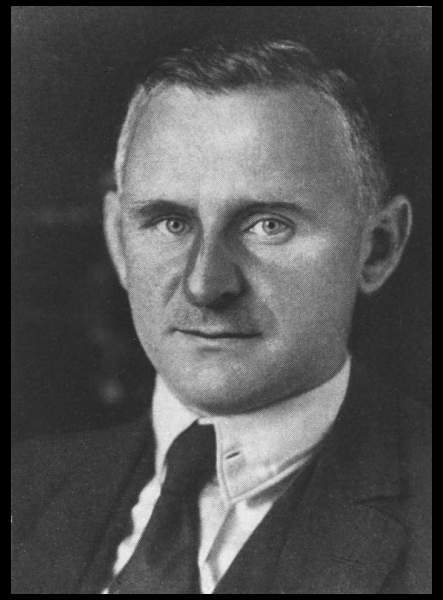
The apparent aim of the assassination attempt was to wrest political control of Germany and its armed forces from the Nazi Party (including the SS) and to make peace with the Western Allies as soon as possible. The details of the conspirators' peace initiatives remain unknown, but they would have included unrealistic demands for the confirmation of Germany's extensive annexations of European territory.

The plot was the culmination of efforts by several groups in the German resistance to overthrow the Nazi German government. The failure of the assassination attempt and the intended military coup d'état that was to follow led the **Gestapo to arrest more than 7,000 people, of whom they executed 4,980.**

Hans Oster

Ludwig Beck

Erwin von Witzleben



Carl Friedrich Goerdeler

Henning von Tresckow

Friedrich Olbricht

Erich Fellgiebel

Participants in the plot

Claus von Stauffenberg

Werner von Haeften

Operation Spark (1940)

Operation Spark (sometimes translated as "Operation Flash") was the code name for the planned assassination of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler by the anti-Nazi conspiracy of German Army officers and political conservatives, known as the Schwarze Kapelle ("black band") during World War II. The name was coined by Major General Henning von Tresckow in 1941. He believed that because of Hitler's many successes up to that time, his personal charisma, and the oath of personal loyalty to him sworn by all German army officers, it would be impossible to overthrow Hitler and the Nazis with Hitler still alive. Hitler's death, however, would be a "spark"—a signal that it was time to launch an internal coup d'état to overthrow the Nazi regime and end the war.

Operation Foxley

During World War II, Operation Foxley was a 1944 plan to assassinate Adolf Hitler, conceived by the British Special Operations Executive (SOE). Although detailed preparations were made, no attempt was made to carry out the plan. Historians believe the most likely date for an attempt would have been 13–14 July 1944, during one of Hitler's visits to the Berghof.

Prior plans

One of the first actual British plans to assassinate Hitler was to bomb the special train "Amerika" (in 1943 renamed "Brandenburg") he travelled in; SOE had extensive experience of derailing trains using explosives. The plan was dropped because Hitler's schedule was too irregular and unpredictable: stations were informed of his arrival only a few minutes beforehand.

Another plan was to put some tasteless but lethal poison in the drinking water supply on Hitler's train. However, this plan was considered too complicated because of the need for an inside man.

Operation Foxley

Sniper attack plan

Ultimately a sniper attack was considered to be the method most likely to succeed. In Summer 1944, a German who had been part of Hitler's personal guard at the Berghof had been taken prisoner in Normandy. He revealed that at the Berghof, Hitler always took a 20-minute morning walk at around the same time (after 10:00). Hitler liked to be left alone during this walk, leaving him unprotected near some woods, where he was out of sight of sentry posts. When Hitler was at the Berghof, a Nazi flag visible from a cafe in the nearby town was flown.